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ABSTRACT

Examples of primary source materials that can be used in a U.S. history survey course are presented to illustrate the use of primary documents to provide insight into how particular individuals or groups reacted to specific events. An introduction to the documents and their significance in U.S. history is provided, along with suggestions for class discussion, for the following documents: (1) a speech by the Commissioner of the Orangeburg Commission on Contracts to the Freedpeople of Orangeburg, South Carolina (1865); (2) immigration data extracted from various ship manifests (1896); (3) an extract of the report by Lillian Russell Moore on immigration (1922); (4) a packet of materials produced by the Committee on Public Information to motivate the people behind the U.S. war effort (1917); (5) a cartoon satirizing the affluence of U.S. society in the 1920's (1924); (6) a packet of letters and articles illustrating aspects of racism and Black migration from the South (1919-1928); (7) letters written to President Franklin Roosevelt during the New Deal era (1933-1937); (8) a letter from Ho Chi Minh asking for U.S. support in establishing the Vietnam Democratic Republic (1933); (9) a letter to President Ford from the Presidential Clemency Board regarding the extension of clemency to persons convicted under the Military Selective Service Act and copies of Ford's pardons for three individuals (1974); and (10) a letter endorsing the nomination of Gerald Ford for the Vice Presidency (1973). Concluding comments describe the summer workshops conducted by the National Archives and Records Administration to assist teachers to create their own teaching materials from primary sources and facsimiles. (AYC)

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USING PRIMARY SOURCE MATERIAL AS A SUPPLEMENT TO THE U.S. HISTORY SURVEY COURSE

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Presented at the annual meeting of the Eastern Community College Social Science Association in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania on April 19, 1985.

USING PRIMARY SOURCE MATERIAL AS A SUPPLIMENT TO THE U.S. HISTORY SURVEY COURSE

Abstract: Using primary source material as a suppliment in the teaching of a United States history survey course improves instructional methodology because primary documents encourage reflective thinking and improve conceptual understanding. By applying the use of original documents in conjunction with a standard text, the scale of American history can be increased to illustrate how particular individuals or groups reacted to specific events through time. If employed appropriately, primary documents can help the student draw historical inferences that transcend material most commonly found in the survey textbook.

Introduction

Using primary source material to suppliment the teaching of a United States survey course enhances instructional quality because primary documents have the potential to develop reflective thinking. The student can gain insight into historical problems through primary documents. A primary document is any material that is indigenous to a particular time period. As exemplified in this presentation, a primary document can be a visual illustration as well as textual.

Because of a time constraint, a basic survey course does not dwell on detail. If used judiciously, primary documents can provide some depth without compromising time and can fortify conceptual understanding of a particular event or era. If used within the pedagogical construct of inductive teaching, primary sources enable the student to create constructs that suggest possible explanations of historical occurences. Using original source material provides a pleasant alternative in the teaching of United States history.

Selected documents in this presentation encompass the period of time between 1865 and 1985. They attempt to provide a more intimate insight into change processes that influence the evolution of American society. Change processes cross disciplinary boundaries and promote a wholistic understanding of historical phenomena. As shown in Figure 1 the interaction of a multiplicity of change processes through time generates the evolution of United States culture. A pedagogical paradigm in the teaching of United States history would be the application of change processes in the study of event sequences that brought about social change. The employment of change processes as a teaching strategy also amplifies a Marxian interpretation of history where history is a reflection of the struggle between those who exercise power with those in society who do not. The use of primary source material in the classroom aids the student in understanding of conflictual situations in an historical context because they generate curiosity with regards to specific examples of historical events. The primary documents are the attributes that contribute towards a general knowledge and understanding of history.

The Commissioner of the Orangeburg Commission on Contracts to the Freedpeople of Orangeburg, South Carolina

One day in June, 1865 all of the freed persons of Orangeburg, South Carolina were assembled and they were informed by the Commissioner of the Commission on Contracts that the only difference, at that time, between slavery and freedom was that no one would be able to buy or sell you. Freedom means that you'll have to work harder than you ever did before and the remuneration is not going to be much. No one is going to be responsible for your welfare except yourself.

The above document suggests the chaos that resulted after the destruction of slavery in the South. A responsibility of the Freedmens Bureau was to

USING PRIMARY SOURCE MATERIAL AS A SUPPLIMENT TO A BASIC SURVEY COURSE IN UNITED STATES HISTORY--A CONSTRUCT

1865 - 1985

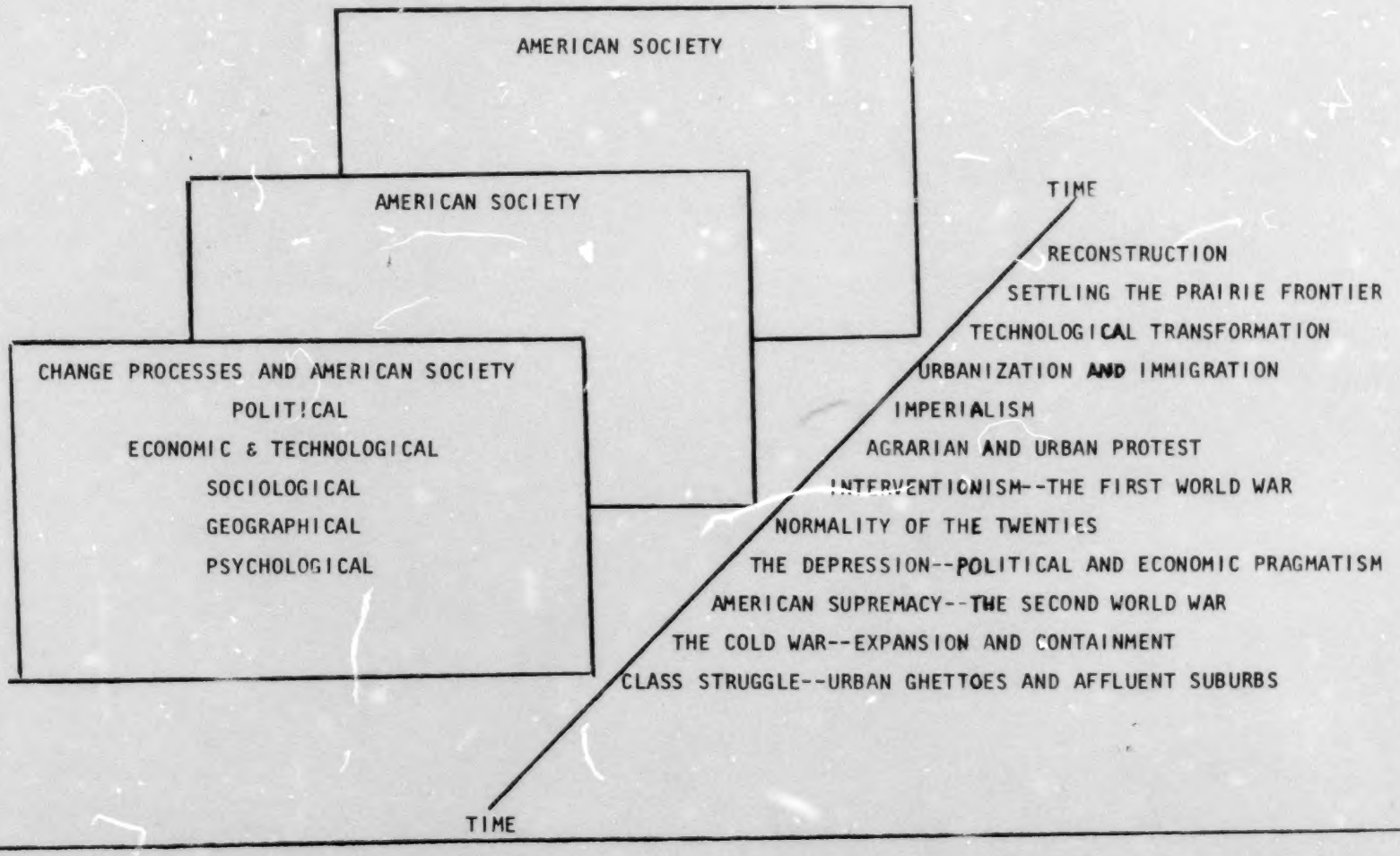

FIGURE 1

reestablish order. This document suggests several critical questions such as:

1. What were the freed people of Orangeburg asking for and why was it perceived as being too much?

2. Is there a difference in the interpretation of freedom between whites and blacks? Why would there be such a difference?

3. How does the Commissioner feel about the freed persons? Is there anything in his address that suggests racism?

4. Do the remarks of the Commissioner imply that slavery was a better alternative to freedom? What's your opinion?

Photographs as Documentary Evidence of the Institutionalization of Racism

Poverty persisted in the South after the Civil War. Both racial groups fell victim to the crop lien system. Farmers alliances attempted to unite the agrarian classes of both races but did not succeed because racism took precedence over economic issues. The displayed photographs in this presentation illustrate vividly the inequalities of a segrated society and suggest the following inquiry:

1. Although the action in these photographs took place in the South, how do the pictures suggest that racism was a national problem and not just relegated to the South?

Immigration: Baltimore as an Example

Approximately 25 million immigrants came to the United States between 1880 and 1920. Most passed through Ellis Island and entered into New York City. There were other ports of entry such as Baltimore. In 1896, for example, 11,431 individuals travelling on steamships of the North German Lloyd Company entered via Baltimore. Indeed, 1896 was a critical year as far as immigrant statistics are concerned for it was in that year that emigration from Eastern and Southern Europe exceeded emigration from Europe's northwest region. Particular data reflecting the immigrant group coming to Baltimore in 1896 was extracted from various ship manifests and presented as a package. The data suggests a variety of questions such as:

Commissioner of the Orangeburg Commission on Contracts to the Freedpeople of Orangeburg, South Carolina

[June 1865]

To the Freed People of Orangeburg District

You have heard many stories about your condition as freemen. You do not know what to believe: you are talking too much; waiting too much; asking for too much. If you can find out the truth about this matter, you will settle down quietly to your work. Listen, then, and try to understand just how you are situated.

You are now free, but you must know that the only difference you can feel yet, between slavery and freedom, is that neither you nor your children can be bought or sold. You may have a harder time this year than you have ever had before; it will be the price you pay for your freedom. You will have to work hard, and get very little to eat, and very few clothes to wear. If you get through this year alive and well, you should be thankful. Do not expect to save up anything, or to have much corn or provisions ahead at the end of the year. You must not ask for more pay than free people get at the North. There, a field hand is paid in money, but has to spend all his pay every week, in buying food and clothes for his money, and in paying rent for his house. You cannot be paid in money -- for there is no good money in the District -- nothing but Confederate paper. Then, what can you be paid with? Why, with food, with clothes, with the free use of your little houses and plots. You do not own a cent's worth expect yourselves. The plantation you live on is not yours, nor the houses, nor the cattle, mules and horses; the seed you planted with was not yours, and the ploughs and hoes do not belong to you. Now you must get something to eat and something to wear, and houses to live in. How can you get these things? By hard work -- and nothing else, and it will be a good thing for you if you get them until next year, for yourselves and your for families. You must remember that your children, your old people, and the cripples, belong to you to support now, and all that is given to them is so much pay to you for your work. If you ask for anything more; if you ask for a half of the crop, or even a third, you ask too much; you wish to get more than you could get if you had been free all your lives. Do not ask for Saturday either: free people everywhere else work Saturday, and you have no more right to the day than they have. If your employer is willing to give you part of the day, or to set a task that you can finish early, be thankful for the kindness, but do not think it is something you must have. When you work, work hard. Begin early at sunrise, and do not take more than two hours at noon. Do not think, because you are free you can choose your own kind of work. Every man must work under orders. The soldiers, who are free, work under officers, the officers under the general, and the general under the president. There must be a head man everywhere, and on a plantation the head man, who gives all the orders, is the owner of the place. Whatever he tells you to do you must do at once, and cheerfully. Never give him a cross word or an impudent answer. If the work is hard, do not stop to talk about it, but do it first and rest afterwards. If you are told to go

into the field and hoe, see who can go first and lead the row. If you are told to build a fence, build it better than any fence you know of. If you are told to drive the carriage Sunday, or to mind the cattle, do it, for necessary work must be done even on the Sabbath. Whatever the order is, try and obey it without a word.

There are different kinds of work. One man is a doctor, another is a minister, another a soldier. One black man may be a field hand, one a blacksmith, one a carpenter, and still another a house servant. Every man has his own place, his own trade that he was brought up to, and he must stick to it. The house servants must not want to go into the field, nor the field hands into the house. If a man works, no matter in what business, he is doing well. The only shame is to be idle and lazy.

You do not understand why some of the white people who used to own you do not have to work in the field. It is because they are rich. If every man were poor, and worked in his own field, there would be no big farms, and very little cotton or corn raised to sell; there would be no money, and nothing to buy. Some people must be rich, to pay the others, and they have the right to do no work expect to look out after their property. It is so everywhere, and perhaps by hard work some of you may by-and-by become rich yourselves.

Remember that all your working time belongs to the man who hires you: therefore you must not leave work without his leave not even to nurse a child, or to go and visit a wife or husband. When you wish to go off the place, get a pass as you used to, and then you will run no danger of being taken up by our soldiers. If you leave work for a day, or if you are sick, you cannot expect to be paid for what you do not do; and the man who hires you must pay less at the end of the year.

Do not think of leaving the plantation where you belong. If you try to go to Charleston, or any other city, you will find no work to do, and nothing to eat. You will starve, or fall sick and die. Stay where you are, in your homes, even if you are suffering. There is no better place for you anywhere else.

You will want to know what to do when a husband and wife live on different places. Of course they ought to be together, but this year, they have their crops planted on their own places, and they must stay to work them. At the end of the year they can live together. Until then they must see each other only once in a while.

In every set of men there are some bad men and some fools; who have to be looked after and punished when they go wrong. The Government will punish grown people now, and punish them severely, if they steal, lie idle, or hang around a man's place when he does not whant them there, or if they are impudent. You ought to be civil to one another, and to the man you work for. Watch folks who have always been free, and you will see that the best people are the most civil.

The children have to be punished more than those who are grown up, for they are full of mischief. Fathers and mothers should punish their own children, but if they happen to be off, or if a child is caught stealing or behaving badly about the big house, the owner of the plantation must switch him, just as he should his own children.

Do not grumble if you cannot get as much pay on your place as some one else, for on one place they have more children than on others, on one place the land is poor, on another it is rich; on one place Sherman took everything, on another, perhaps, almost everything was left safe. One man can afford to pay more than another. Do not grumble, either, because the meat is gone or the salt hard to get. Make the best of everything, and if there is anything which you think is wrong, or hard to bear, try to reason it out: if you cannot, ask leave to send one man to town to see an officer. Never stop work on any account, for the whole crop must be raised and got in, or we shall starve. The old men, and the men who mean to do right, must agree to keep order on every plantation. When they see a hand getting lazy or shiftless, they must talk to him, and if talk will do no good, they must take him to the owner of the plantation.

In short, do just about as the good men among you have always done. Remember that even if you are badly off, no one can buy or sell you: remember that if you help yourselves, GOD will help you, and trust hopefully that next year and the year after will bring some new blessing to you.

COUNTRY OF ORIGIN FOR STEERAGE PASSENGERS ARRIVING IN BALTIMORE

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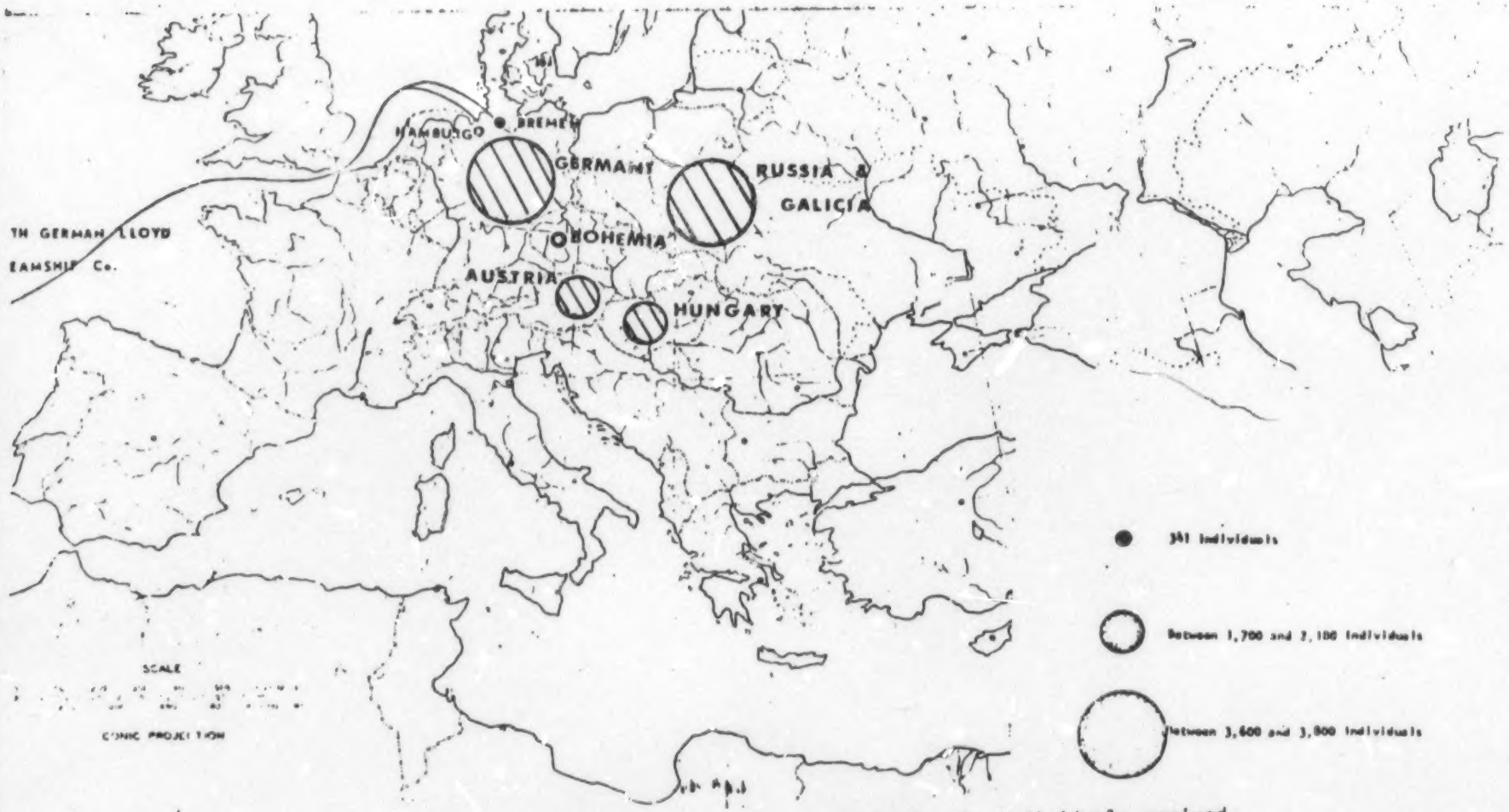

Approximately 11,431 individuals arrived

RECORD OF STEAMERS AND STEERAGE PASSENGERS ARRIVING IN BALTIMORE FROM BREMEN THROUGHOUT 1896

Steamer	Jan.	Feb.*	Mar.	Apr.	May	Jun.	Jul.	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Aachen							253				202	
Brunschweig			388									
California**								59				
Crefeld				751	289		176	176	142			
Dresden	118							109	128	93		
H.H. Meir										110		
Halle								217				
Hottenstanfer				758		362						
Moravia**					192							
Munchen	139	172		474	829						154	
Neckar			255		631		403			147		
Roland		250	556			482	218		207	180		143
Sailer						414			198			
Walia**									59			
Weimar												35
Willehad			383	439								140
Total	257	422	1,582	2,422	1,941	1,258	1,050	561	734	530	356	318

**Departed from Hamburg, Germany

Source: "Surveyor's Department Record of Arrival of Immigrants Jan.1, 1888 to February 1892 & June 1894 to December 31, 1900," National Archives, Washington, D.C.

SIGNIFICANT STATISTICS OF STEERAGE PASSENGERS ARRIVING IN BALTIMORE ON APRIL 3, 1896 ON THE STEAMER MUNCHEN

Origin	Total	Male	Female	Under Fifteen %	Over Forty %	Can't Read or Write %	Individuals Bringing Over $30 %	Individuals Bringing Less Than $30 %
Austria	37	33	4	0.0	5.4	37.8	0.0	78.4
Bohemia	10	7	3	20.0	10.0	0.0	30.0	40.0
Galacia	56	52	4	5.2	12.5	34.6	10.7	78.6
Germany	97	43	54	27.8	10.3	0.0	11.3	23.7
Hungary	96	65	21	11.5	8.3	15.6	12.5	57.4
Russia	188	159	29	8.5	8.0	55.3	4.3	72.3

Note: Percentages are for individual places of origin

Source: "Passenger Lists of Vessels Arriving at Baltimore 1891-1909," Microfilm T 844, National Archives, Washington, D.C.

OCCUPATIONS OF STEERAGE PASSENGERS ARRIVING ON THE GERMAN STEAMER MUNCHEN
APRIL 1896

Baker	1
Barber	1
Blacksmith	3
Butcher	1
Cabinet Maker	1
Carpenter	6
Farmer	53
Laborer	221
Miller	1
Miner	2
Saddler	1
Servant	2
Shoemaker	5
Tailor	4
Tinner	1
Weaver	1

Source: "Passenger Lists of Vessels Arriving in Baltimore 1891-1909," Microfilm T-844, National Archives, Washington, DC.

FINAL DESTINATION FOR SELECTED STEERAGE PASSENGERS ARRIVING ON THE GERMAN LLOYD STEAMER HUCHEN IN BALTIMORE ON APRIL 3, 1896.

- 1 Person
- 2 - 5 Persons
- 6 - 15 Persons
- 16 - 30 Persons
- 31 - 45 Persons
- 46 - 60 Persons

Total number of individuals plotted is 286, which represents 62% of the passengers of the Hunchen's voyage between March 19 and April 3, 1896.

Source: Manifest of Alien Immigrants, Norddeutsch

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1. On the first map note the source areas of immigration. What were the "pushing forces" that compelled people to emigrate to the United States?

2. Considering numbers of immigrants and the time of their arrival, why do you suppose many of them preferred to make the journey in spring and early summer? Does the data suggest anything about the deplorable conditions of the voyage across the Atlantic?

3. Studying the data of those immigrants who came over on the April voyage of the steamer Munchen, what is there to suggest that all immigrants were not equal?

4. Does the data imply that the melting pot in the United States was easily achieved? What was to make it possible or to prevent it from happening?

5. Give a general description of an individual immigrant arriving on the Munchen in April 1896.

6. The final map shows were the immigrant group from the Munchen initially settled. Given the location of their place of first settlement, what jobs were they expected to do? How do you think they were received by those people already living there?

Immigration: Closing the Door

After the First World War corgressmen spoke of a "barbarian horde" that would inundate the United States. This "foreign tide" would be a "dangerous and deadly enemy of the country." As nativism asserted itself some politicians believed that "all of the nation's ills were due to an intermingling and mongrelization of people." Congress adopted in 1924 the National Origins Quota Act which limited immigration from Europe to 150,000 persons and allocated most places to immigrants from Northwestern Europe.

Lillian Russell Moore and her husband Alex made the grand tour of Europe in 1921. To expedite their trip and to minimize inconveniences, James J. Davis, Harding's Secretary of Labor, appointed Mrs. Moore an assistant commissioner of immigration. This appointment gave her and her husband instant VIP status. She took her appointment seriously and prepared a report of her study which was delivered to Mr. Davis six months before she died. Read this partial extract of Lillian Russell Moore's report and

reflect on the following questions:

1. Why does Mrs. Moore no longer believe that the United States need keep the door open for European immigrants?

2. How prophetic was Mrs. Moore when she wrote in 1921 that human rights had been restored to the peoples of Europe?

3. Do you agree or disagree with her conclusion that an immigrant person should not be naturalized until they have been in the United States for 21 years? Why?

The First World War and the Committee on Public Information

In April 1917 the United States entered the war in Europe. President Wilson created the Committee on Public Information and a progressive reporter, Mr. George Creel, was appointed as its chairman. The responsibility of the Creel Committee, as it came to be known, was to motivate the people behind America's war effort. Creel enlisted 75,000 "four-minute men" to give quick speeches at public gatherings and places of entertainment. He also exploited movies and promoted films like The Kaiser, the Beast of Berlin. In the following packet there are several examples of what Creel's committee was involved with:

1. What were specific topics presented by the four-minute men and how do these topics provide insight with regards to the importance of the home front?

2. Was it necessary for the Committee to apply censorship to the "Maid of France" playing at Keith's Theater? Should there be censorship of this type in times of war? Would you accept this type of censorship applied to controversial films today?

3. Why do you suppose the Committee wanted to know of all organizations that were doing Americanization work? Was there an alien problem in the United States?

4. How effective do you think patriotic posters would be in resolving labor problems of the Fisk Rubber Company in Conshohocken, Pa?

5. George M. Rittelmeyer implies that the Kaiser had an invisible army in the United States. What do you think led him to believe this? Who in America would possibly want to aid Imperial Germany?

March 27th, 1922.

Hon. James J. Davis,

Secretary of Labor

Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Secretary - I beg leave to submit the following report of my observations on immigration, as commissioned by you, during a visit to European countries:

Immigration, in my opinion, is the gravest question today confronting the American people, and the most serious problem demanding solution by the American Government.

Time was when our shores were a haven for the politically oppressed, and when our gates opened the way to opportunity for the ambitious and aspiring of other lands. Time was, too, when our nation, in its period of construction and reconstruction, needed the brawn of the sturdy Europeans to extend civilization into uncultivated and undeveloped territory.

Today, European countries are such that a haven of refuge is not required. There is no longer political oppression abroad. Men are not being driven from their homes for disputing the divine right of kings to rule. The war has restored human rights to the peoples of Europe, and the new conditions permit to all free expression of thought and peaceful possession of property. There may be suffering, there is depression; but there is freedom, and none need seek sanctuary here.

Nor does America need labor to aid in the development of its resources. That stage has long passed, and it is a fact that the immigration of recent years has been from that class of

people which arrests, rather than aids, the development of any nation. When I declare that most of those now seeking to come here have not any of the inspiration or the necessity of the early settlers from abroad, I am stating facts that impress everybody who makes any study of European conditions.

In this immigration problem, then, there is only one thing that demands serious attention, - and that is: WHAT IS BEST FOR AMERICA?

We must be just before we are generous.

We must think of the future as well as of the present.

The higher civilizations of past ages, history teaches us, succumbed to such foreign invasions as now threaten us.

Alien infiltration wrecked Rome and Greece.

It is against such a fate that America must protect itself, that the American government must protect its people, including those of foreign birth or extraction who have loyally taken up the duties of American citizenship.

I believe it would be a good thing for America if an immigration "holiday" of five years could be declared. But if we must keep our gates open I would urge a new system, by which the sifting process should be carried on abroad, so that none but those who, physically and mentally, would make valuable additions to our population would be permitted to board ship for America.

There should be rigid tests of mental qualifications by American consuls. One rigid requirement should be that applicants must be able to read, write and speak their own language.

Physical tests should be conducted by American physicians,

and any bodily weakness should mean rejectment. The Wasserman blood test ought to be employed in every case.

I am insistent upon the employment of American physicians to make these tests because I believe that racial sympathies might lead to too liberal a view of bodily infirmities. It is just possible too, that some foreign government agencies might not object too severely to the departure of undesirables. It has been intimated that foreign governments might protest against the employment of American physicians as health examiners, but there is no logical ground for such objection. Protest might just as reasonably be made against the quarantine officials of home ports who examine incoming passengers.

If the present law restricting immigration by quotas from other countries is continued, it should be materially strengthened, as I have suggested. There should be also a central headquarters, possibly in London, where American consuls should regularly report the number of their vises, so that the quota could not be exceeded any month, thus avoiding the hardship of deportation for excess immigrants.

In present circumstances, every intending immigrant needs simply to apply at the nearest American consulate for a vise, for which he pays $10.00. It is the consul's duty to ascertain all the facts in relation to the individual, including details respecting health, morals, contract labor and the like - but the consul is absolutely limited as present conditions exist. He has no power to refuse a vise for any reason other than that the quota of the country is exhausted - and in which event alone, he may refuse a vise. This is unfortunate, for it necessarily leads to

thousands of departures of unfit persons to America - who succeed by either influence or by trickery, in entering the country and being turned back upon inspection at Ellis Island.

These people lose by breaking up their homes in their own countries, and America loses by the cost of their return. Much human misery could be avoided, periodical congestion at Ellis Island prevented and the entrance of unfit persons into the United States most conveniently checked, by the application of the following suggestions:

Consuls should be authorized to refuse vises to all unfit persons. All applicants for vises in the case of immigrant persons should be required to submit details three months before final action is taken. This should include a certificate from their native doctor, stating that a blood test has been taken - thus

and reconstruction of its principles and regulations, and meantime requesting our congressmen to visit the countries from which the majority of immigrants come. They could do this in their vacation months- not as a pleasure trip, but as a matter of information which can be used to the greatest advantage in future discriminating rules for immigration, that we may protect ourselves permanently by a drastic prohibition as respects the unfit, as described in Section 3 of the present Immigration Law.

If congressmen should go abroad they could see the facts as I saw them. One particular fact is that no good immigration is turning our way. The good inhabitants of every foreign country are needed there, and can possibly be happier and more contented there than in America.

It is a fact that in France there are only 65,000 in the ranks of the unemployed. Reconstruction is being elaborately carried on in France and every able bodied man is not only needed, but his prospects are made so alluring that he has no inclination to emigrate. Only those who are useless to France and would be a burden to America show any tendency to depart. Italy needs men to till the soil, to grow food and to keep her own country prosperous. It is to the interest of France and Italy to keep the best of their sons at home- if not forever, at least for a long time to come.

There is more to this immigration problem than the economic side. Warning has been issued through the German Red Cross that the United States must be on its guard against the in-

troduction of cholera and typhus by Russian immigrants. Hordes of these people, Dr. A. Schlesinger officially announced, are pouring into Germany over the Polish, Batvian, and Esthonian borders, and many are seeking passports to America, where they have relatives and friends who are financing them for the journey.

Already nearly 50,000 cases exist in Germany traced to refugees, and German immigrants from the Volga region have been infected. Seventy five percent of the recent arrivals in the concentration camps were diseased, according to the Red Cross statistics.

The Minister of Health has called attention to the necessit of vaccinating everyone arriving from Russia, declaring their children especially are carriers of typhus.

We take in too few productive immigrants, and too many destructive.

I look upon the question of immigration as closely associated with that of citizenship. Personally, I believe that no alien should be naturalized until he has lived in the United States twenty one. Our own men have to live here twenty one years before they can become voting citizens.

It is fortunate for the United States that Congress enacted the three percent quota law. It is doing much good. With some of the additions I have suggested, it would be quite efficient. Its chief weakness is the lack of power help by our consuls abroad. There, it seems to me, is the foundation of all the trouble.

I want to say for our American consuls that I never met a more patriotic class of men as a rule. Their Americanism is

pronounced, and I believe it is accentuated by their knowledge of America's peril. Theysee, and they know, better than any class of our citizens, the difficulties and dangers of laxity in immigration laws.

Our America has passed the transition stage.

It is today a world power.

An intelligent, cohesive, loyal citizenship is its propulsive force. Solidification of all its elements is essential to perpetuity.

The Melting Pot has been over-crowded. It has boiled too quickly and is running over.

It were better to put out the fire under it and allow its contents to solidify before adding any more raw material.

If we don't keep up the bars, and make them higher and stronger, there will no longer be an America for Americans.

Respectfully submitted.

William Russell Moore

March 27th 1922

Executive Order.

I hereby create a Committee on Public Information, to be composed of the Secretary of State, the Secretary of War, the Secretary of the Navy, and a civilian who shall be charged with the executive direction of the Committee.

As Civilian Chairman of this Committee, I appoint Mr. George Creel.

The Secretary of State, the Secretary of War, and the Secretary of the Navy are authorized each to detail an officer or officers to the work of the Committee.

WOODROW WILSON

THE WHITE HOUSE,
13 April, 1917.

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INTRODUCTION SLIDES.

Each speaker is furnished by his chairman with a slide which introduces him to a motion-picture theater audience as a Government representative. This slide is thrown on the screen *before* he mounts the platform. The wording of the slide is similar to the following:

④ MINUTE MEN ④

Washington, D. C.

The United States

Goverament Presents

DONALD M. RYERSON

Who will speak four minutes

THE COMMITTEE

ON PUBLIC INFORMATION

Appointed by the President.

The speaker requires no further introduction. There is no time in four minutes for apologies, thanks to theaters, or other preliminaries. Appearing as a Government representative, with all the authority of the country back of him, the speaker should present the manner of a man who has a right to assume that the theater manager and the people in his audience are interested in his message.

TIME LIMIT ON SPEECHES.

The length of each speech in the motion-picture theater is limited by strict arrangements to four minutes. Consent by theater managers for a longer speech, or a request from the audience for a speaker to continue his talk or to answer questions, *do not alter* this four-minute-contract rule.

Some men believe it is difficult to condense a speech, but they soon rea that a single thought, just one idea, can be well presented, in fact, can be best presented within the alloted time.

Unofficial speeches outside of theaters are not subject to time limit.

TOPICS OF SPEECHES.

Topics are assigned from time to time by the Committee at Washington. Bulletins giving material on these topics, together with direct authoritative information from the Departments at Washington, are sent to local chairmen; the chairmen in turn deliver these bulletins to the local speakers; sometimes the bulletins are mailed direct to the speakers.

The general topics which have been covered by Four Minute Men are typical of those to be used. Those used prior to this writing have been as follows:

The Red Cross Hundred Million Dollar Campaign	June 18 to June 25.
Food Conservation	July 1 to July 14.
Why We Are Fighting	July 23 to August 5.
The Nation in Arms	August 6 to August 20.
What Our Enemy Really Is	August 27 to September 23.
Unmasking German Propaganda	August 27 to September 23, supplementary topic.
Onward to Victory	September 24 to October 7.
The Second Liberty Loan of 1917	October 8 to October 29.
Food Pledge Week	October 30 to November 11.
Maintaining Morale and Morale	November 12 to November 25

29

F-6

WAR DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY
WASHINGTON, D.C.
607 Mills Bldg.

AJ-idv.

COM. ON PUB. INF.
RECEIVED
JUN 27 1918
SERVICE BUREAU

From: 1st Lieut. Arnold Joerns, A.S.Sig.R.C.,

To: Committee on Public Information

Subject: "Maid of France" at Keith's Theater.

1. It is suggested that the one act play "Maid of France" played by Josephine Victor with Clifford Brooks & Company at Keith's Theater, Washington, D.C. this week presents a circumstance of very poor psychology in connection with war propaganda.

2. The play needlessly, emphatically and stirringly reopens the bitterness felt between the French and British at the time of Jeanne d'Arc; and although the wind-up of the play is supposed to be satisfactory and patriotic the net result cannot help but foster bitterness toward our British Allies.

3. It is felt that the play should be suppressed at once in the interests of the Great Cause and that steps should be taken so that it cannot be repeated in other cities.

Arnold Joerns

SERVICE

6-28-18

REFERED TO

Mr Byoir

Com on Pub Inf

30

GEORGE CREEL, Chairman
THE SECRETARY OF STATE
THE SECRETARY OF WAR
THE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY

COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC INFORMATION

WASHINGTON, D. C.

February 6, 1918.

Honorable Earle W. Orem, Mayor

Cambridge, Md.

Dear Sir:

You are respectfully requested to furnish this Committee at your earliest convenience with a list of the organizations in your City that are doing Americanization work, with the name and address of the President in each case. This should include all agencies dealing with immigrants, whether official, public, private, religious or industrial agencies.

This Committee also desires the names and addresses of all organizations of foreign-born residents of whatever description.

Americanization as defined in this inquiry includes: instruction of immigrants in the English language and in civics; furnishing information, aid and service to immigrants; the counteraction of anti-American propaganda; meetings, addresses and gatherings to bring about unity of immigrant peoples in America; maintenance of information centers; the adoption of safeguards against alien enemy activities; special attention or provisions for immigrants, and all measures and plans having for their object the bringing of native and foreign-born peoples together in common loyalty to America.

A prompt compliance with this request will be appreciated.

Yours very truly

Chairman.

Cambridge, Md, Feb. 14, 1918.

Dear Sir: We have no organizations in our town as above mentioned.

Yours truly

Earle W. Orem 31

Dear Sir:

We have no organizations in our town as above mentioned.

OFFICE OF THE CHAIRMAN
POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT

REFER TO FILE NO.

CENSORSHIP BOARD

WASHINGTON

July 26, 1918.

George Creel, Chairman
Committee on Public Information
Washington, D.C.

My dear Mr. Creel:

The resolution passed by the Censorship Board at its meeting of July 18th, as follows:

> "That all outgoing communications in the German language, subject to the United States Censorship, shall not be passed by the United States Censorship, with the exception of the mail of enemy prisoners of war."

has caused some confusion in the mind of the public, which is not familiar with the jurisdiction and extent of the Censorship and a number of protests have been received against the prohibition of letters written in German to members of the Expeditionary Forces in France by members of their families, who, in some cases, are unable to use English. Therefore, the Board, at its meeting on July 25th, adopted a resolution to the effect that the Chairman of the Committee on Public Information be requested to modify the notice previously published, making it clear that mail to our soldiers abroad is not censored and that the prohibition of the use of the German language in communications to them does not apply.

Neither does the prohibition apply to communications addressed to the Northern neutral countries of Europe or to Switzerland as mail for these countries does not come within the present scope of our Censorship.

Will you please see that this correction and amplification is given as wide publicity as possible?

Respectfully,

For the Chairman

E R White

Deputy Chief Postal Censor

ERW:R

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Death Harvest of Germany's Submarines Under Restrictions

Below is a partial record of the destruction of life and property resulting from Germany's submarine warfare, which Berlin claimed was in accordance with international law, before and after the pledge given to the United States September 1, 1915. What will be the result of the new policy of ruthlessness, of which the United States received warning yesterday:

SHIPS SUNK BY GERMAN SUBMARINES BEFORE PLEDGE TO UNITED STATES.

Name. Date.	Lives lost.	Americans.
Fulaba, March 28, 1915	111	1
Aguila, March 28, 1915	26	..
Gulflight (American), May 1, 1915	2	2
Lusitania, May 7, 1915	1,198	102
Leelanaw (American), July 25	..	..
Iberian, July 31, 1915	6	2
Arabic, August 19, 1915	44	2

SHIPS SUNK AFTER PLEDGE TO UNITED STATES OF SEPTEMBER 1, 1915.

Hesperian, September 4, 1915	23	..
Ancona, November 7, 1915	206	24
†Persia, December 30, 1915	335	2
Maloja, February 27, 1916	155	..
*Silvia, March 9, 1916	8	..
*Tubania, March 16, 1916	..	..
*Berwindvale, March 16, 1916	..	..
Sussex, March 24, 1916	80	‡
*Manchester Engineer, March 27, 1916	..	..
Kent, April 5, 1916	48	..
Chantala, April 8, 1916	9	..
Santanderino, April 10, 1916	4	..
Rio Branco, May 2, 1916	..	..
Cymric, May 8, 1916	5	..
Mira (French coasting ship), May 16, 1916	8	..
†Batavier V, May 16, 1916	4	1
†Koenigin Wilhelmina, July 31, 1916	8	..
Lotimbro, August 2, 1916	x	..
†Kelvina, September 2, 1916	..	..
Marina, October 28, 1916	19	6
Angheliki, October 30, 1916	50	..
Lanao (American), October 28, 1916	..	..
*Arabia, November 6, 1916	2	..
Columbia (American), November 7, 1916	..	..
Chemang (American), November 28, 1916	..	..

*Americans aboard.
†Sunk by mine or torpedo; cause undetermined.
‡Several.
§All on board.
xNumber unknown.

October 8, 1916, German submarine U-53 sunk off Newport, R. I., beyond the 3-mile limit five steamships—the Strathdene, the West Point and Stephano, all British; the Bloemendijk, Dutch, and the Christian Knudsen, Norwegian. No lives were lost.

NATIONAL ARCHIVES
World War I
Document 4

D-2

All communications should be addressed to "The Chief of Ordnance, U. S. Army, Washington, D. C."

Copy

WAR DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF ORDNANCE
WASHINGTON

5/11/18

In replying refer to No. 415 F

From: A.I. of O., the Fisk Rubber Co.,
Conshohocken, Pa.

To: Ord. Dept., Inspection Division, U.S.A.,
Information Section, Gen'l Adm. Bureau,
6th and B St., N.W., Washington, D.C.

Subject: PATRIOTIC POSTERS FOR THE FISK RUBBER COMPANY, CONSHOHOCKEN, PA.

1. It is urgently requested that a prompt shipment be made of Patriotic Posters to be used and distributed thruout the plant of the Fisk Rubber Co., Conshohocken, Pa.

2. We emphasize the request for prompt shipment as labor trouble is brewing at this Plant, which, in all probability, will result in a strike.

3. This office has not be advised, prior to receipt of memorandum #114, that Patriotic Posters were obtainable.

4. We give below a few facts in chronological order that will enable the Department to properly select the quantity and style of Posters best suited for use at this particular Plant:

There are about 200 workmen, of which approximately 60% are aliens, the rest naturalized Americans.

The Plant is situated in a Town with a population of, approximately, 10,000.

Strikes have been threatened twice which were prevented by more remuneration to the Workmen of this Company, but the labor condition here is decidedly unsettled at the present time.

We also mention that Conshohocken is but a short distance from Philadelphia and in case you have advertising material in stock at that place, we will be in position to select the most suited types of Advertising from the Phila. Ordnance District Office.

HOWARD UNIVERSITY
WASHINGTON, D.C.
PRESIDENT'S OFFICE

March 26, 1917.

The Secretary of Labor,
Washington, D. C.

Sir:

At a crowded assembly held in Howard University at noon today the following minute was unanimously and enthusiastically adopted:—

> "We, officers, teachers, and students of Howard University, because of our unfailing devotion to our country, do hereby offer ourselves to her in mind, body, and estate for whatever use she may be able to make of us in maintaining her integrity and her high position among the nations of the world."

We wish to make plain by this statement that we hold ourselves ready as Americans for whatever we may be able to contribute to the Government of the United States in this critical time.

Yours sincerely,

J. Stanley Durkee
President.

NATIONAL ARCHIVES
World War I
Document 3

B-2

THE UNITED [illegible] SELLING COMPANY

DURALITE

1000 EUCLID AVENUE

CLEVELAND, OHIO June 28th, 1918.

Mr. George Creel, Chairman,
Committee on Public Information,
Jackson Place,
Washington, D.C.

Dir Sir:

In June 1915, I organized "The Society of the Lusitania", as a silent protest against barbarism - using as the insigma the Coat of Arms of the Imperial German Empire with a clot of blood across it, using the slogan "the blot that won't come off".

I am enclosing stamps, Credo, letterhead and button.

I furnished twelve stamps, one button, 1 Credo for 25 cents, the proceed to be given to the Red Cross or Belgium relief fund. In no sense was it a money making scheme. My purpose was simply to arouse indignation and promote patriotism. I guess I was a little ahead of my time, although it caught on to such an extent that our kindly German friends here took the matter up with the Post Office Department and Mr. Burleson issued a fraud order against me under "Section 212 of the Penal Code - Section 481 Postal laws and regulations". Not wishing to enjoy the odium that such an order carried with it, I agreed to withdraw. Which I did.

Candidly, the Country was not ready for it, being under the influence at the time of German "Twilight Sleep", so I have done nothing since although a number of my friends have prevailed upon me to do so. Lately I have been wondering whether your Committee would look upon this with favor. The organization of "The Society of the Lusitania" to promote patriotism to help ferrett out Lies and Spies, a sort of junior A. P. L. each member working for the good of all, agreeing to boycott everything German, to have nothing to do with anything German, goods, language, music or sentiments, the stamps to be used on mail matter to spread the propopanda, the button to be worn by the members, the Credo to be framed and hung where it could be seen, the members to be obtained by the Chain System, the proceeds above cost of carrying on, to go to one of the worthy charities.

This could be started on its way splendidly in company with the moving picture "Lest We Forget". A lot of free publicity could be obtained and personally, I believe it could be made most effective amongst the great unthinking masses whom God made so many of, and who need to be aroused just as much as do the smug self satisfied individuals who three years ago said I was an enemy of society generating hatred of a dear good kindly people.

(1)

B-3

Live Steam

A MONTHLY MAGAZINE FOR MACHINERY USERS

Edited and Published by
GEORGE M. RITTELMEYER

Jackson, Mississippi.
May 31--1918.

Bureau of Public Information
Washington, D.C.

Gentlemen:

I am taking the matter up with you to ascertain if you will approve of a plan that I have in view to help stamp out the Kaiser's invisible army in the United States.

It is my intention (in the event I secure your approval) to start a national organization to be known as the "HOW DO YOU KNOW IT CLUB."

The members of this club will be furnished with a button asking this question, and whenever anyone makes a remark about the army, navy, or government, it will be the duty of said member to flash this button and ask how do they know it to be true.

It is my intention to charge a membership fee of 25¢ to be paid in Thrift Stamps, and while I will not advertise it, I expect to devote a considerable part of the proceeds to the Red Cross.

Members for the club will be secured through newspaper advertising and other means of publicity. Please let me know what you think about the proposition.

Yours very truly,

Geo. M. Rittelmeyer

GEORGE BATTEN President
WILLIAM H JOHNS Vice President
FRANK H LITTLE 2d Vice President

NEW YORK 30 FOURTH AVENUE
BOSTON 10 STATE STREET
CHICAGO MCCORMICK B... BLDG

DIRECTORS
GEORGE BATTEN
WILLIAM H JOHNS
FRANK H LITTLE
JOSEPH E BATTEN
STARLING H GUSSEP
FRANK H LAWRENCE
J VAN LIEW WYCKOFF
WILLIAM J BOOTHMAN
EDWARD W DICKINSON
MILES S WHITNEY

George Batten Company
INCORPORATED
Advertising
New York

November 22, 1917

Mr. George Creel, Chairman,
Committee on Public Information,
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir:

As President of the American Association of Advertising Agencies I desire to place the services of our organization at the disposal of the National Government and make this tender, through you, as Chairman of the Committee on Public Information.

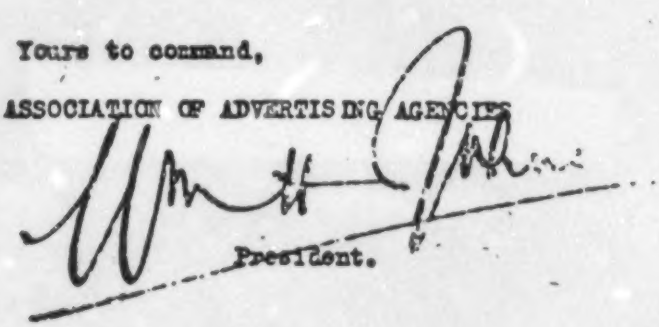
Our organization comprises in its membership practically all of the large and influential firms in our line of business and I can give you full assurance that all of them now hold themselves in readiness to render service where it can be most effective.

We do this in the spirit of unselfish desire to enlist as good soldiers in whatever work of advertising and publicity that you may ask and that is within the limits of the special skill of the personnel of the 150 advertising agencies of our body.

Yours to command,

WHJ:ELP

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF ADVERTISING AGENCIES



President.

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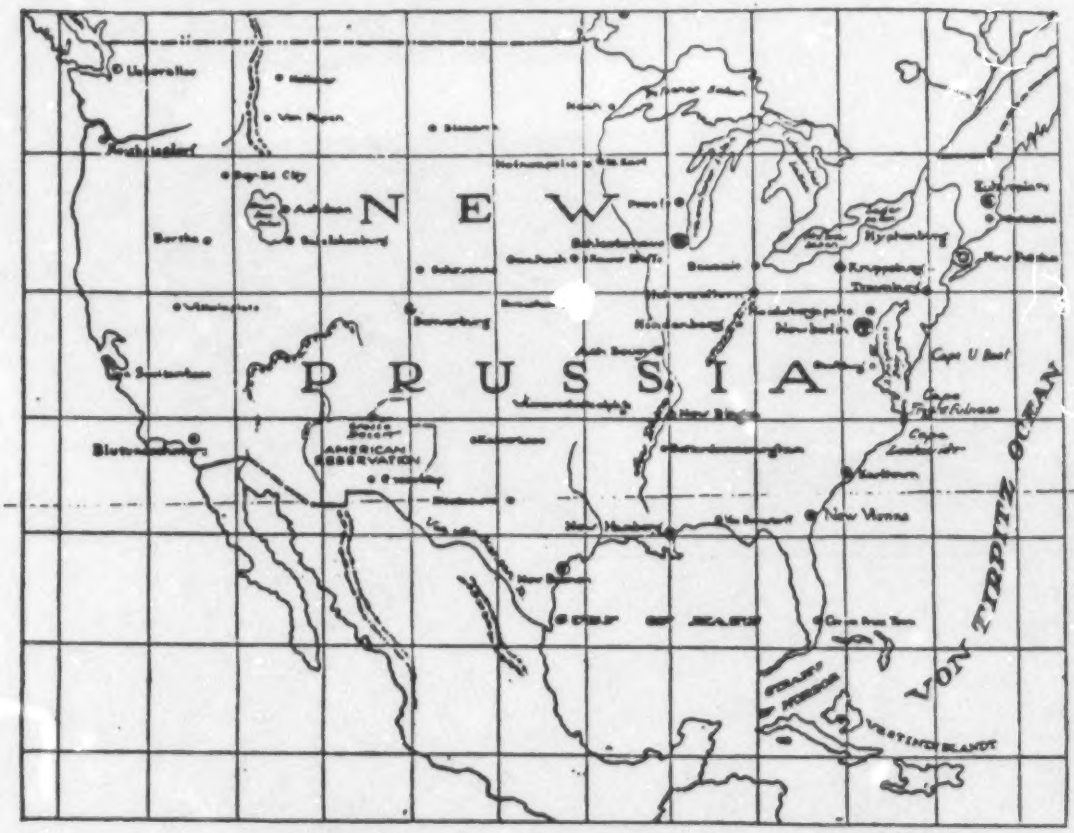
C-2-

1 MADISON AVE., NEW YORK CITY

AD. No. E8



COPYRIGHT BY LIFE PUBLISHING CO.

The German Idea

SHALL this war make Germany's word the highest law in the world?

Read what she expects. Here are the words of her own spokesmen.

Then ask yourself where Germany would have the United States stand after the war.

Shall we bow to Germany's wishes—assist German ambition?

No. The German idea must be so completely crushed that it will never again rear its venomous head.

It's a fight, as the President said, "to the last dollar, the last drop of blood."

Americans, know the essential war facts! Your government has itself undertaken to give them to you. The Committee on Public Information has published a series of pamphlets, as follows. Any two sent upon request to the Committee on Public Information, Washington, D. C.

THE AMERICAN IDEA

The President's Flag Day Speech, With Evidence of Germany's Plans. 32 pages
The War Message and the Facts Behind It. 32 pages.
The Nation in Arms. 16 pages.
Why We Fight Germany.
War, Labor and Peace.

THE GERMAN IDEA

Conquest and Kultur. 160 Pages.
German War Practices. 96 pages.
Treatment of German Militarism and German Critics.
The German War Code.

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COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC INFORMATION

"The German race is called to bind the earth under its control, to exploit the natural resources and the physical powers of man, to use the passive races in subordinate capacity for the development of Kultur."—*Ludwig Woltman, Politische Anthropologie, 1903.*

"Our German Fatherland (to) which I hope it will be granted, through the harmonious co-operation of princes and peoples, of its armies and its citizens, to become in the future as closely united, as powerful and as authoritative as once the Roman world-empire was."—*Kaiser's speech, Imperial Limes Museum, Saalburg, October 11, 1900.*

"Germany's greatness makes it impossible for her to do without the ocean, but the ocean also proves that even in the distance, *and on its further ride*, without Germany and the German Emperor no great decision dare henceforth be taken."—*Kaiser's speech, Kiel, July 3rd, 1900.*

"If ever the course of world history hastened to bestow upon an undertaking what I might call the historical seal of approval, then this was the case when, directly after the voting of the naval budget, first the Spanish-American war, then the disturbance in Samoa, and then the war in South Africa put our overseas interests at such different points in serious embarrassment, and fate proved it all before our eyes. You will un-

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Gossip that Costs Human Lives!

HAVE YOU HEARD LIES LIKE THESE?

THAT President Wilson's Secretary, Mr. Tumulty, was shot for treason at Fort Leavenworth.

THAT a sweater knit in St. Louis for the soldiers in France was sold by Red Cross workers.

THAT no soldier or sailor, after leaving American soil, can write home.

THAT Red Cross officials receive exorbitant salaries.

THAT homes displaying Food Pledge cards will be searched by Government agents.

THAT this is a "business man's war."

THAT there are 10,000 Englishmen in Utah waiting to seize America for Great Britain.

YOU HEARD the story about the Red Cross official who sold a sweater knitted for the soldiers?

Did you believe it? Did you repeat it?

Do you know that stories like that are lies started by German spies? Do you know that you are helping the Kaiser and HURTING OUR SOLDIERS every time you repeat such rumors?

✥

Oh, they are clever stories—interesting stories—they make splendid gossip, whenever women gather. Of course they are! The Kaiser pays his spies to make them clever so that people will repeat them.

That's how they spread and spread and grow and grow until a lot of people hear them. Discontent is sowed. The very national unity of this country is attacked.

✥

That's how German agents are trying to slow up our preparations. That's how, unless these lies are nailed, they will prolong the war, impede the transport of our food, supplies and soldiers—yes, that is how these lies will kill our boys in France!

✥

Of course you do not realize these consequences when you pass along a story you have heard. But you owe it to yourself to get "THE KAISERITE IN AMERICA"—101 German Lies—the newest publication of the Committee on Public Information in Washington. See how the German agents have invented lies—even to giving names and dates and places.

Read the 101 German lies that one newspaper ran down and proved to be utterly false. How many of them have you heard?

Your boys can fight the enemy abroad. You can fight the enemy at home. However harmless all these stories seem, don't repeat them! Don't listen to them! Get this book and see how you can help to beat the Kaiser at his game at home! It's free!

COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC INFORMATION

8 Jackson Place, Washington, D. C.

Get the Facts from Washington!

Committee on Public Information

THIS SPACE CONTRIBUTED FOR THE WINNING OF THE WAR BY

November 15, 1918

Mr. Louis Bloch, General Secretary,
Young Men's Hebrew Association,
440 Wyoming Avenue,
Scranton, Pa.

My dear Mr. Bloch:-

In reply to your letter of October 24th, I would say that it is not likely that we shall be able to schedule any speakers for your Association in December, as you suggest. With the signing of the armistice and peace imminent, the Committee on Public Information passes into history, for this Committee, as many other committees and bureaus here in Washington, was created as an emergency organization to disseminate information during the war. With the end of the war its work is over. It is quite likely that our work will end soon, - at least by the middle of December.

I regret exceedingly, therefore, that we shall not be able to be of service to you by sending speakers to your city. At present there is no other committee or bureau as far as I know, through which you could secure such speakers as you desire. It is my suggestion that you keep in touch with such men as Rabbi Silver, The Temple, Cleveland, Ohio, and if he should make a trip East, ask him to stop at Scranton and address your organization.

Regretting again our inability to assist you, I am

Yours sincerely,

Associate Director,
Four Minute Man.

EH

IF GRANDPAP COULD ONLY RETURN WITH SOME OF HIS DISCIPLINE

(Copyright: 1934: By The Chicago Tribune.)

6. Consider the enthusiastic support of the faculty and student body of Howard University; what would Negroes demand from the United States for their support of the war effort? Would they demand anything at all?

7. What material did Madison Avenue create that would help motivate American citizens behind the war effort? How sophisticated were these creations? Would they work today if they were directed against the Soviet Union or Nicaragua?

8. How influential do you think the Creel Committee was during the Red Scare which followed the war in 1919?

The Affluent Society of the 1920s

It was revealed in the 1920 census that slightly halve of America's population lived in urban centers. The dynamic growth of the American city reflected new technologies and economies of scale. Automobiles and electric appliances made life easier and more pleasant for the vast majority of American people. This new opulence is exemplified by a cartoon which appeared in the Chicago Daily Tribune.

1. Do Americans today have it better than their forefathers of the 1920s? Is the cartoon appropriate now as it was than?

Racism and Negro Migration from the South

As the flo of foreign immigration deminished during the war, industries in the North actively recruited migrant labor from the South. Pushing blacks away from the South was an impoverished agrarian economy and racial discrimination while the forces pulling them northward were better wages and the perception of improved opportunities in the industrial city. It was evident to the black experience that wherever they moved to, racial tensions would not disappear. The following song suggests the black perception of this migration:

I'm tired of being Jim Crowed,
Gonna leave this Jim Crow town.
Doggon my black soul,
I'm sweet Chicago bound.
Yes sir, I'm leaving here--
From this old Jim Crow town.

Yes, I'm going up North where they tell me
Money grows on trees.
I don't give a goddam even if my soul will freeze.
I'm going where I'll need my woolen sleeves.

I got my hat, got my overcoat,
Don't need anything but shoes,
These old loafers gonna walk away my blues
When my girl hears about that
She's gonna be bad news.

I'm going up North, Baby, I can't carry you,
Ain't a thing in that country a girl like you can do,
I'm gonna get me a new love, baby,
'Cause, I'm through with you.

Gonna tell the big boss off, give him a piece of my mind,
From now on little baby, I'll be hard to find.
Goin' to Chicago, gonna leave the South,
Leave it all far behind.

As blacks began to migrate away from the South towards the industrial centers of the North, they were confronted with stumbling blocks placed in their way by the South. It seems paradoxical that Southern society would impose racial segregation upon blacks and then try to prevent them from leaving. Read the following material:

1. It has been said that white Southerners loved blacks as individuals but hated them as a race. How do these documents reflect the above viewpoint?

2. What weapons do the blacks have to combat racism in the South? What appear to be the most effective? Which did many blacks elect to use in the 1920s and how would this compare with what they elected to use in the Civil Rights Movement of the 1960s?

The New Deal

As the New Deal evolved President Roosevelt was able to articulate his programs by exploiting the radio. Through the design of his fireside chats he was able to speak directly to the people on a rather intimate level. In this segment of the paper two letters written to President Roosevelt are offered as examples of this intimacy between the citizen and the chief executive. People felt that they could write directly to the

[redacted] 55151

UNITED STATES RAILROAD ADMINISTRATION

DIRECTOR GENERAL OF RAILROADS

SUBJECT: Alleged discrimination in refusing to sell at Northern points prepaid tickets from points in the South.

June 21, 1919.

MEMORANDUM for Mr. Hines:

A number of complaints have come to this Division from persons who have endeavored to purchase prepaid tickets at various points in the North with a view to sending them to colored relatives in the South for transportation to northern points.

For instance, on June 3, 1919, Rev. M. C. Bailey, pastor of the Antioch Baptist Church of Cleveland, Ohio, applied at the United States Railway ticket office at Cleveland to purchase a prepaid ticket from Madison, Alabama, to Cleveland, Ohio, which ticket he desired to send to his daughter, Mrs. Lottie Beadle for transportation from Madison, Alabama to Cleveland, Ohio. Rev. Bailey and his daughter are colored. The ticket clerk refused to sell such ticket to Rev. Bailey, statingto him that an order had been issued by the Director General against such practice on the ground that it would encourage colored labor to come North. This particular instance has been the subject of letters from Senator Harding and Representative Emerson of Ohio, and appeared as a news item in the New York Times, New York Post and possibly other papers.

As you will note, the ticket agent is alleged to have stated that his refusal to sell the prepaid ticket was due to an order issued by the Director General. Investigation by this Division develops the fact that a ruling to this effect was made prior to the period of Federal control by the Southern Passenger Association, which ruling has been followed during the period of Federal control.

It appears that the Southern railroads decided that they did not want to have colored labor leaving the South to go to the North and for that reason made the rule to which I have referred. It also appears that with this exception prepaid tickets may be purchased at any ticket office in the United States.

I do not know what right the Southern railroads had to decide that they would throw stumbling blocks in the way of colored persons desiring to travel from the South to the North. Whatever reason may have animated them, it seems to me clear that the Railroad Administration cannot consistently sanction the continuance of such a rule.

I recommend that you give instructions to have this rule abrogated.

Max Thelen
Director.

MT*er

16 K'land E.C.

NATIONAL ARCHIVES
The 1920's—Document 21

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3,000 WILL BURN NEGRO

Kaiser Under Stronger Guard Following Escape Of Crown Prince

Frank Simonds Writes For States

NEW ORLEANS STATES

From the Jackson, Miss., Daily News, Thursday, June 26, 1919.

27th YEAR

JOHN HARTFIELD WILL BE LYNCHED BY ELLISVILLE MOB AT 5 O'CLOCK THIS AFTERNOON

Governor Bilbo Says He Is Powerless to Prevent It—Thousands of People Are Flocking Into Ellisville to Attend the Event—Sheriff and Authorities Are Powerless to Prevent It.

HATTIESBURG, June 26.—John Hartfield, the negro alleged to have assaulted an Ellisville, young woman, has been taken to Ellisville and is guarded by officers in the office of Dr. Carter in that city. He is wounded in the shoulder but not seriously. The officers have agreed to turn him over to the people of the city at 4 o'clock this afternoon when it is expected he will be burned. The negro is said to have made a partial confession.

GOV. BILBO SAYS HE IS POWERLESS.

When Gov. Bilbo was shown the above dispatch and asked what action, if any, he intended to take to prevent the affair, he said:

"I am powerless to prevent it. We have guns for state militia, but no men. It is impossible to send troops to the scene for the obvious reason that we have no troops."

Gov. Bilbo says he is telegraphing [illegible]

for the lynching has now been fixed for five p. m.

A committee of Ellisville citizens has been appointed to make the necessary arrangements for the event, and the mob is pledged to act in conformity with these arrangements.

Rev. L. G. Gates, pastor of the First Baptist church in Ellisville, has made an effort to reason with the mob leaders, but has met with no success.

Sheriff Lott has wired Governor Bilbo for troops to prevent the lynching, but has been informed that there are no troops available.

Sheriff Lott has also wired Governor Bilbo asking what action, if any, he intends to take to prevent the lynching, but has received no reply.

Governor Bilbo has wired Sheriff Lott to exercise every effort to prevent the lynching, but has not suggested any plan of action.

Sheriff Lott has wired Governor Bilbo that he has done everything in his power to prevent the lynching, but has been unable to do so.

Governor Bilbo has wired Sheriff Lott that he has done everything in his power to prevent the lynching, but has been unable to do so

H. L. REMMEL
MEMBER OF ARKANSAS

REPUBLICAN NATIONAL COMMITTEE

LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS

Hon. Henry C. Wallace,
Secretary of Agriculture,
Washington, D.C.

October 3, 1923.

My dear Mr. Wallace:

On Saturday last I had a conference with President Coolidge and, among other things, I took up with him the question of emigration of the colored man from the south to the north.

This has become a very acute question in the south, as many thousands of colored men and their families have gone north, in many instances leaving their cotton fields with the crop half cultivated, selling what few goods they can and going north, leaving the planters without any labor to cultivate their fields. It has been stated through the press that as many as 150,000 colored people have gone to the north during 1923, some reports making it even more. This is of vital importance to our planters and farmers, as the colored man and his family constitute practically the agricultural labor in the alluvial bottom lands of all our southern states. The uplands or mountain regions are occupied by white people.

I suggested to the President that he appoint a commission of say five colored men of recognized experience and ability and men of good intelligence to constitute a commission and to make their headquarters at Tuskagee, Alabama, where the Booker Washington school has been sending out young colored men, trained in scientific agriculture and mechanics and women in domestic science; then these commissions visit southern states at different times, calling conferences and conventions and discussing with the colored people the importance of diversified farming and to tell them that the south is the natural home of the colored man and his family.

These colored commissioners must be men of recognized worth in the southern communities from which they hailed and be practical agriculturalists. The President seemed favorably impressed with my suggestions. I told him that I had previously discussed this same matter with President Harding and he also was favorably impressed with the idea and thought he would appoint such a commission.

President Coolidge requested me to call on you and discuss the situation as I had with him. I told him that I would have to leave that evening and would not have time to discuss the merits of my recommendation, but would write you, and that is what I am doing now. Since my return home I have had a number of white men, as well as colored men, write me and also phone me, and some have called at my office, saying that they thought my plan a good one. I would appreciate it very much, my dear Mr. Secretary, if you would consider these suggestions and let me know your views in the matter.

Yours very truly,

H. L. Remmel

NATIONAL ARCHIVES

19858

Ewing Va.
March 3, 1928

Attorney General Sargeant
National Capitol
Washington, D. C.

DIVISION
MAR 4 1928
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MAR 15 1928

Dear Sir:

Eighteen months ago a mob under guise of the K. K. K. attacked and drove my father from (his bed) his dwelling about midnight. Due to terror a very young brother of mine was forced to flee from the house, from whence he went to a newly plowed field where he buried himself in a deep furrow. Suit of fear for his life, my father, dressed in a very thin night gown, escaped to a near by copse where he spent most of the night in a drizzle. After the effort of the felons to get my father was foiled they battered down a door against which my mother and sister frantically pushed to stay them; they riddled another door with bullets.

Sir, Russia with her flowing blood and Sovietism has little more than surpassed

this dastardly outrage upon peace and life.

We, the Burdick family, haven't sufficient money to investigate thoroughly and prosecute, that is bring these curs to justice. Throughout the months that have passed, since this occurrence my father has thru discretion seen it necessary to go well armed; he has found that he has had to do much that the state should have done, that is guard his life. We, my father and I, are tax payers and citizens of the United States. Since the county and the state have failed to act upon this Constetutional offense I supplicate you in the name of peace, liberty, happiness, and life to see that action is had.

My father and his family reside at Ethridge, Tenn. (D. H. Burdick)

Very sincerely yours,

Ramsey J. Burdick

President circumventing the cumbersome channels of the federal bureaucracy with a feeling of confidence that their petitions were not going to be ignored.

1. How legitimate is Miss Kubicki's complaint?
2. How does the Kubicki letter suggest that there were families not necessarily suffering from the adverse effects of the Depression?
3. In the letter by Bertha Gallman would you evaluate the effectiveness of the WPA: was the program beneficial or too wasteful?
4. How does the Gallman letter provide some insight into relations between whites and blacks in the South? How will the Negro benefit from New Deal programs?
5. Considering both letters are they both written in a formal context or is there some intimacy to them? How, do you think, President Roosevelt was influential in setting the tone of these letters?
6. Are you either ambivalent or sympathetic with the two writers? Why?

The Cold War and Containment: The Experience of Vietnam

Two documents are presented to articulate particular aspects of the Vietnam conflict. First there is a letter to President Truman composed by Ho Chi Minh who was asking for America's support in his struggle to establish the Vietnam Democratic Republic. The second document is a cover letter addressed to President Ford from the Presidential Clemency Board petitioning the President to make a decision with regards to several individuals who requested clemency because they violated the law.

1. Why is Ho Chi Minh writing to President Truman? How did he expect the United States to help him?
2. Why didn't President Truman come to his aid? What obligations, if any, did the United States have to France?
3. Do you think the French would have been in a better position to establish a democratic republic in Vietnam than Ho Chi Minh? How so?
4. How were the Japanese catalysts in creating a sense of self-determination amongst the various Asiatic peoples?
5. What is the profound irony about this letter?

6. Why did the federal government find it necessary to establish the Presidential Clemency Board?

7. What specific laws did the particular individuals violate? What was their punishment? Was the punishment justified?

8. What was the desposition of their appeals? Was President Ford justified in the decisions he made? Why?

The Constitution and Water ~~Gate~~

A constitutional crisis was averted when Richard Nixon resigned from the presidency and Gerald Ford became the first United States president to serve without going through the election process. This final document is a copy of a letter supporting the vice presidential nomination of Gerald Ford written to Senator Howard Cannon by Speaker Carl Albert. Before pressure could be applied to force Nixon's resignation, Vice President Agnew had to be dealt with. Given Agnew's level of competence would the Congress have pressed for Nixon's impeachment if the only alternative was to have Spiro Agnew succeed him in the White House?

1. The nomination of Representative Ford to fill the vacancy of the vice presidency was the first application of the Twenty-sixth Amendment. Given the situation of Water Gate is there anything in Carl Albert's letter to suggest the probability of Ford eventuaily assuming the presidency?

2. Did any action of Gerald Ford during the brief tenure of his administratic betray the confidence that Albert had of him? Why would Carl Albert, who was a Democrat, want to support Gerald Ford who was a Republican?

Conclusion

The documents selected for this presentation were obtained through this writer's participation in a summer workshop conducted by the National Archives and Records Administration. Of course the best known documents in the National Archives are the Declaration of Independence, Constitution and the Bill of Rights; however, the Archives holds millions of documents, maps, photographs, films, and sound recordings that document the American experience. How many

NRA

RESPECTFULLY REFERRED
FOR ACKNOWLEDGMENT
AND CONSIDERATION
Louis McHenry Howe
Secy. to the President

Kansas City, Missouri.
December 20th, 1933.

President Franklin D. Roosevelt,
Washington, D. C.
United States of America.

Dear Mister President;

Having long been an admirer of your integrity and wisdom, I am taking the liberty of writing to you of a problem which is getting more serious each day.

I am thirty seven years old, and for fourteen years held the position of assistant bookkeeper in a large department store in Kansas City. Recently this company changed hands, the new president bringing in an efficiency engineer. This man put in a new system in the office, which required bookkeeping machines and calculators. So far, there has been eight of us to lose our jobs.

No consideration was given as to who needed jobs, in fact it seemed that those who needed them most, were fired. Not one married woman in that office was fired, and each and every one of them has a husband employed. This deplorable condition seems to be prevalent in this city and other cities of this country. Every-where I go to look for a job I find these women, some of them my friends, working- and I have found that nine cases out of ten their husbands have good jobs. I do believe there are about ten percent of these cases where husbands are out of work.

I understand that some employers say that the married woman is more efficient. Naturally, the half-starved, worried, single woman hasn't a chance with a well-kept married woman who has two incomes to meet her greedy demands. I have come in contact with quite a few single women since I have been out of work, and many of them are eating only one or two meals a day. My heart aches for these women, Mr. President, and I know you would feel the same way, if you knew this condition as it really exists.

The greedy type of married woman does not only cheat her single sisters, but she makes conditions worse for the single and married men who are out of work. They are also a stumbling-block to the boy and girl out of school. The people of Kansas City are greatly incensed over this, but of course it is up to the employers to act- and only a few of them have done so. So far, the N. R. A. has done nothing about it. It seems to me, Mr. President, that it could be handled through this source.

Wishing you and yours a Glorious Christmas and a Merry New Year, I am

Sincerely,

Miss Frances M. Kubicki,
3012 Montgall, Kansas City, Mo.

C
O
P
Y

Newbury, S. C.
June 3, 1937.

Dear President Roosevelt:

I am trying to make a living by farming to support two small orphan children and their almost invalid mother. Six years ago I had a four horse farm & did well on even 6¢ cotton. I have had to go to a two horse farm on account of no colored labor hardly. They all "work for the government." The farming condition in this country is tragic. The farmers are nearly crazy. Can't something be done to give us our colored labor back? I wish you could put yourself in our shoes and see what is going on. As a lawyer said the other day, "every sprig of grass on the courthouse lawn has cost at least 10¢ and every piece of shubery has cost $10 with the government hands working on it"; And the farms, whereby foodstuffs come, are going to rack & ruin. Can't you please see the awfulness of the situation and remedy it at once. The situation is tragic & I'm asking your aid. I wish you could hear all the men here talk of the situation.

President Roosevelt, it is serious. Wont you please turn the negroes off the government jobs so they can go back to the farms? Which is more important, crops being grown or lawns in town being worked on by 8 negroes for two days doing the work that one negro had previously done in one day? Why cant they be sent to the farms and do something for the welfare of the country? I'm not laying the situation before legislators or other individuals for of course they have a wife or cousin or something will be said or denied so the job will still go on. You alone can help situation & I'm depending on you. If they must still be in "government jobs" please authorize the heads to take them to farms where they are needed. If they are turned off then the town women can get cooks & maids from the town negroes & the county negroes can stay on farms. Wont you please do something to help the tragic situation?

May I have a reply from you in the enclosed envelope as soon as possible? Write some of our big farmers and see how many negroes need to be on "government" jobs. How can I farm any longer if I dont have some labor and how can I "carry on" without trying to make a living on the land their dead father left them?

Hurriedly but sincerely,

S/ Bertha Gray Gallman

BỘ NGOẠI-GIAO

VIỆT-NAM DÂN-CHỦ CỘNG-HÒA
ĐỘC-LẬP – TỰ-DO – HẠNH-PHÚC

S6

HANOI JANUARY 18 1946

President HO CHI MINH,

Vietnam Democratic Republic, H A N O I

To President HARRY TRUMAN
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
WASHINGTON D. C.

DEAR MR. PRESIDENT ,

On the occasion of the first assembly of the United Nations in London, I beg to congratulate you for the continuous and successful efforts your Government has been making to maintain Peace and Security all over the world.

As Peace is indivisible and as the Far East is being taken into especial consideration by your high Representative in China, General MARSHALL, I think it our duty to inform you on what is going on in our country and on what grave consequences for World Security the agressive war inflicted upon us by the French may bring about.

As early as 1941, Vietnam has risen up against the Japanese fascists, and taken arms by the side of the Allies. After the Japanese surrendered to the Allies, a Provisional Government was set up to restore order and eradicate all fascist intentions in Vietnam. Supported by the whole nation, it carried out a democratic program, and succeeded in restoring order and discipline everywhere. Under very difficult circumstances, general elections fcor National Congress were organized and took

place on January 6th, 1946 throughout the land, including 9 000 000 electors of whom more than 90 o/o went to the polls.

The French colonialists, on the contrary, surrendered to the Japanese as early as September 1941. For four years they wholeheartedly cooperated with the Japanese to fight against the Allies and to repress the Vietnamese population. On March 9th, 1945, five months before the Japanese were defeated, the French by a second surrender, lost all right and control over Indochina.

On September 23rd, 1945, while the New Vietnam Democratic Republic was making strenuous efforts to carry out her reconstruction program, the French launched a night attack on the innocent population of Saigon, which was followed up by a systematically destructive and murderous warfare. Facts of looting, assassination of civilians, violence, indiscriminate bombing of non-strategical places by war planes, are reported everyday. Their intention is to invade the whole country and to reestablish their domination.

In the meanwhile, after the offer of interference voiced by Dr. VINCENT CARTER, Chairman of the Far-East Department, our people enthusiastically welcomed President TRUMAN's address on October 28, 1945, in which he vigorously and concretely set for the principles of self-determination and equality of status laid down in the Atlantic and San Francisco Charters.

Since that time, the French have tremendously increased their fighting forces. Millions of people will suffer, thousands will be killed andinvaluable properties will be destroyed, unless the United States

would step out to stop that bloodshed and unlawful agression.

For this reason, on behalf of my people and Government, I respectfully request you to interfere for an immediate solution of the Vietnamese issue. The people of Vietnam earnestly hopes that the great American Republic would help us to conquer full independence and support us in our reconstruction work.

Thus, with the assistance of China and the United States, both in capital and technique, our Vietnam Republic will be able to bring her share in the building-up of World Peace and World Prosperity.

With respect

I am, dear Mr. President,

Yours truly,

JNLT

Pres Handwriting
Box 3

PRESIDENTIAL CLEMENCY BOARD
THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20500

December 23, 1974

The President
The White House
Washington, D. C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

The Presidential Clemency Board, established by Executive Order No. 11803, dated September 16, 1974, to review certain convictions of persons under Section 12 or 6(j) of the Military Selective Service Act and certain discharges issued because of violations of Article 85, 86 or 87 of the Uniform Code of Military Justice, submits the following as its second report:

The Board recommends that Executive Clemency be extended to 47 individuals whose names appear on the attached lists, attested as to its correctness by the Executive Secretary of the Board, and that each person named shall either receive an immediate pardon or clemency conditioned upon a period of alternate service performed in the national interest.

As to the 18 civilians, the Board recommends the following:

9 Persons -- immediate pardon

5 Persons -- pardon conditioned on 3 months Alternate Service

1 Person -- pardon conditioned on 6 months Alternate Service

1 Person -- pardon conditioned on 10 months Alternate Service

2 Persons -- pardon conditioned on 12 months Alternate Service

Case # 102-071-C

This applicant is in his mid-twenties and is white. He was born in the Southwest and was graduated from college. He claimed conscientious objector status based on his moral beliefs and his sincere opposition to the war. However, his claim was denied and he was ordered to report for induction. He refused and was convicted. The judge placed him on probation on condition that he perform alternative service. He worked part-time in his voluntary job and supported himself in a full-time factory job. This factory went on strike and he refused to cross the picket-line. He left his part-time volunteer work because of personal difficulties although he continued to do alternative service on weekends. However, his probation was revoked because he failed to do the service as prescribed. He was sentenced to 3 years in prison. He has now served 8 months.

Disposition: Pardon

cfk Gerald R. Ford

FORD LIBRARY

Case # 101-030-C

Applicant is a black Muslim, the second of four children, who grew up in a large city in the Midwest. He has 14-1/2 years of formal education, but he had to terminate his schooling because of financial problems. After leaving school, applicant began a career in retail sales where he rose to a managerial level. He declined to seek conscientious objector status and subsequently refused to submit to induction. He was convicted and sentenced to 18 months in prison, although he stood ready to perform alternative service if ordered to do so by the judge. His religion forbids him from accepting alternate service from Selective Service because it considers that agency part of the military. Applicant served 11 months of his sentence. Prison authorities commended his attitude, deportment and work performance during his incarceration.

Disposition: Pardon

CK

Gerald R. Ford

This white applicant is married, was born in the South, and is one of six children. When he was thirteen, his father died and his mother subsequently remarried. His relationship with his stepfather was poor and his home life became increasingly unstable. He quit school in the tenth grade and left home. During his initial enlistment, applicant served as a volunteer helicopter "door gunner," a very hazardous mission. He was honorably discharged in 1965 and re-enlisted for a three-year period. While in Vietnam, he was awarded the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal and two Air Medals. He was consistently rated excellent for conduct and efficiency. He has a drinking problem growing out of his war experience which contributed to his unauthorized absence. During his absence, he was gainfully employed and managed to rehabilitate himself. Applicant surrendered voluntarily to authorities in 1974, and was tried and convicted by general court-martial. He received a Bad Conduct Discharge and a nine-month confinement at hard labor. He has served more than six months in jail.

Disposition: Pardon. Clemency Discharge with recommendation for discharge under honorable conditions with veterans benefits.

OK
Gerald R. Ford

The Speaker's Rooms
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D. C. 20515

November 5, 1973

The Honorable Howard W. Cannon, Chairman
Committee on Rules and Administration
305 Russell Senate Office Building
United States Senate
Washington, D. C. 20510

Dear Mr. Chairman:

This letter is to advise you in a purely personal sense of the confidence that I have in the Honorable Gerald R. Ford who has been nominated to the Office of Vice President by President Richard M. Nixon. It probably would be improper for me to enter into the Committee's considerations of this matter officially; otherwise I would be happy to do so.

I do think I owe it to you, however, as Chairman of the Committee, to state that I have known Gerald Ford well ever since he became a Member of the House in January 1949. I have served with him in the Leadership of the House ever since he was elected Minority Leader. This, of course, has given me a better opportunity than any other Member to observe him close range as a leader as well as a man. I can honestly say that while we have often had differences of opinion on legislative questions, we have worked together in programming and dispatching the business of the House, in complete harmony. No personal difficulty of any kind has ever arisen between us. Mr. Ford has invariably demonstrated his fairness, integrity, and high sense of public duty. By his demeanor, industry and conduct, he has earned the respect and friendship of his colleagues in the House of Representatives. In my opinion he is an outstanding leader and an outstanding American. Based upon my observations of him over the years, it is my judgment that he has the personal and professional qualifications which the American people have a right to expect in any many who occupies the high office of Vice President.

Sincerely,

Carl Albert

The Speaker

CA/vkk

ERIC CLEARINGHOUSE FOR
JUNIOR COLLEGES

AUGUST 30, 1985